

March 8, 1993

DOWNTOWN IRONWOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

A Special Meeting of the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority was held on the above date, 12:00 Noon, Towne House Motor Inn, Ironwood, Michigan.

The purpose of this Special Meeting was to review and discuss the Downtown ground floor apartment proposal.

1. Call to Order.

Chairperson Bergquist called the meeting to order at 12:10 P.M.

2. Roll Call.

PRESENT: Butler, Forslund, Burchell, Kinnunen, Newman, and Chairperson Bergquist.

EXCUSED: Murphy, Johnson and Lorenson.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Ironwood Planning Commissioner George Bergquist and Ironwood Daily Globe General Manager Gary Lamberg.

3. Review and discuss Downtown ground floor apartment proposal.

Chairperson Bergquist explained that she had requested this Special Meeting in order to more thoroughly review the issue of Downtown ground floor apartments. Because of a guest speaker at the February 23rd's regular meeting, only ten minutes was allowed on this topic.

She also believed that this was a bigger issue than originally thought, especially when it comes to controlling the quality of the development. Chairperson Bergquist polled some Downtown store owners for a response for allowing ground floor apartments and they noted either their total disapproval to ground floor apartments anywhere in the Downtown to store owners saying that they have the right to do whatever they want with their empty buildings.

A letter written by Mayor Lorenson was handed out to the Authority. Mayor Lorenson explained some misunderstandings regarding the zoning ordinance revisions being contemplated. It is the Mayor's belief that the DIDA needs to address, with finality, Mr. Forslund's request and the larger issue of ground floor apartments and then move onto other downtown development issues.

Also handed out was "Buildings and Building Regulations" material noting applicable Codes when constructing dwelling units (this was submitted by Keith Johnson at the request of Chairperson Bergquist).

March 8, 1993

A proposed map showing areas that would not allow ground floor apartments in the C-2 District was also submitted for review.

The floor was given to Planning Commission Bergquist for comment. He reviewed the Planning Commission's concerns (as well as his concerns) on controlling the quality of development regarding ground floor apartments. At this point, the Planning Commission has recommended City Staff to develop a new Zone District to be called Commercial/Residential along with language for same. The proposed new language will stay primarily the same as the C-2 Language except for a few conditions as noted by the Planning Commission and the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority.

A Special Meeting of the Ironwood Planning Commission will be held on March 17th to review this new Zone District and language. All DIDA members are welcomed and encouraged to attend this open meeting for any additional input they may have on the topic.

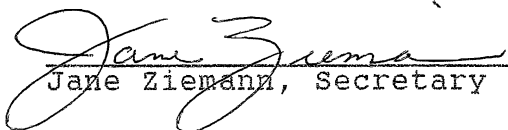
Some issues discussed were tenant parking and the lack of parking spaces in general, Site Plan Review process held by the Ironwood Planning Commission and whether remodeling improvements are considered under the Site Plan, taking a poll of the Downtown store owners to see if they are in favor of ground floor apartments, and City enforcement of Ordinances.

It was the consensus of the DIDA Members that they have already recommended approval of the ground floor apartment issue, along with stating their concerns in the C-2 District and feel no further action needs to be taken. The Authority has requested that upon the Staff's completion of the new Zone District and language, a copy be mailed to them for review.

4. Adjournment.

Being no further business to discuss, Motion by Forslund, supported by Kinnunen, that this meeting be adjourned at 1:05 P.M.

Minutes Taken By:


Jane Ziemann, Secretary